

**AMENDMENTS TO THE CLAIMS**

The following listing of claims replaces all prior versions of the claims and all prior listings of the claims in the present application.

Claim 1 (original) A tire (1, 101) for vehicles having a curvature ratio not greater than 0.1, comprising:

- a carcass structure (2) including a central crown portion (3) and two sidewalls (4, 5) ending in a couple of beads (9, 10) for anchoring to a rim (11) of a wheel;

- a belt structure (12), coaxially associated to the carcass structure (2);

- a tread (14), coaxially extending around the belt structure (12), on the tread being defined:

- i) an equatorial zone (E) extending on either side of the equatorial plane (Y-Y) of the tire (1, 101), and

- ii) two shoulder zones (F, G) in axially opposite positions with respect to said equatorial zone;

said tread (14) comprising a plurality of transversal grooves (15) including a first shoulder portion (16) and a second equatorial portion (17),

characterized in that said transversal grooves (15) are circumferentially distributed along the tread (14) in groups alternately extending from said shoulder zones (F, G) of the tread (14), said groups of grooves (15) defining in the equatorial zone (E) of the tread (14) a plurality of substantially continuous portions (18) of the tread (14) ending at the equatorial portion (17) of a same transversal groove (15) of the axially opposed group of grooves (15).

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